CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE FIFTY-SECOND MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
HELD WEDNESDAY, 13 AUGUST 1986, AT 6:30 P.M.
IN ROOM H-762, HALL BUILDING, SIR GEORGE WILLIAMS CAMPUS

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED AT THIS MEETING:

BD-52-D2: The Campus Centre and Cusacorp: Options for the Future
BD-52-D3: Support Documents for Dr. Kwok Chan
BD-52-D4: Hiring and Appointments Committee Report

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Chairperson John Moore called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. without quorum.

PRESENT:

Co-Presidents:

Scott White

Commerce:

Karen Ashton

Engineering:

Jon Jolivet

Arts Science:

Maria Calderone
Glen Cheverie
Joe Fortune
Jim Locke
Bettina Rosenberg (9:25)
Emma Tibaldo (9:30)

ABSENT:

Co-Presidents: Karen Takacs
Arts and Science: Mike Foster, Amanda Masterman, Linda Piovesan, Julie Smith, Scott Townsend, Brian Zelnicker
Commerce: Scott Bergen, Tony Ghannamy (W/R)
Engineering: Dan Artola
Fine Arts: Ian Fleet (W/R), Francois Gurik, Elizabeth Isaac, Keren Penney (W/R)

Advisors to the Board Present: Frank Benson, Chairperson, Judicial Board; Cherine Hamam, Programming V.P.; Susan Hunt, Student Life V.P.; Brent Jones, Services V.P.; Gracie MacDonald, Communications V.P.; Craig McNamee, Finance V.P.; Scott Robertson, Education V.P.

2. Information Meeting Agenda:

In the absence of quorum, Chairperson John Moore proposed that the following items form the Agenda for an Information Meeting: CUSA Budget Discussion, Dr. Kwok Chan, Academic Materials Fee, Cusacorp/Campus Centre, Judicial Board Report, Executive Reports. The Agenda was approved as presented.

3. CUSA Budget Discussion:

Scott White presented the proposed Budget for 1986-87. He stated that this was the first real budget prepared in the last four years, and added that the deficit for last year will be between $150,000-$210,000 as well as $50,000 still owing to the University for imputation charges for the Campus Centre. He reported that the audited statements for 1985-86 will be available in September, and that the new auditors had been able to do the audit for less than the auditors charged last year. He explained that different categories had been used in the preparation of this budget to clarify exactly how much different areas cost. Discussion was centered on the various categories and costs involved.

(8:10)

4. Dr. Kwok Chan:

Chairperson John Moore suggested that this item be deferred until such time as Dr. Chan arrives.

5. Academic Materials Fee:

Scott White distributed an information sheet he had prepared for students advising them what the Academic Materials Fee is and what they can do about it.

6. Cusacorp/Campus Centre:

Scott White stated that the University had offered to go back to the old system whereby the University would keep the books for Cusacorp thus enabling CUSA to dissolve Cusacorp and save $14,000-15,000. The consequences of this, however, would be that CUSA would lose control of the Campus Centre, and Scott White stated that his gut reaction is not to do it. John Moore asked for a breakdown of the financial options. Scott White explained that CUSA owes the University almost $49,000 ($43,000 plus interest) for Campus Centre subsidies. This is the remainder of a bill sent from the University last year, $99,000 of which was paid at that time. CUSA did not pay the subsidy in 1983-84, but paid $69,000 and $40,000 in 1984-85. Scott White stated that he had written to Doug Devenne, Director of Ancillary Services for the University, requesting details of the charges and the amounts paid, but he has not received a reply to his letter to date.

(8:15)

4. Dr. Kwok Chan:

Chairperson John Moore explained that no action could be taken at present because there was no quorum, but advised Dr. Chan that action could be taken in the form of a written motion if it were deemed appropriate.

Dr. Kwok Chan reconstructed his case. He was hired in 1978 by the Applied Social Science Department, and from 1978-82 he worked for both the APSS and the Sociology Departments. In 1982, he was offered a permanent full-time tenure track position in the APSS Department. Eighteen months later, the departmental personnel committee recommended non-renewal, and it was their perception that he did not fit into the ideology of the department. The

Dean's Advisory Committee decided that his contract should be renewed, however, the Dean overturned the decision and the Vice-Rector supported the Dean. The case was brought before the University Appeal Board who voted unanimously (6-0) in support of Dr. Chan. In 1984, the APSS Department developed a training program for Dr. Chan which consisted of workshops in the U.S. that Dr. Chan had to attend at his own expense, and well as introductory-level APSS courses. The APSS Department came up with a list of 60-70 criteria for evaluation. These criteria were used solely for Dr. Chan--they were never used before nor after his evaluation. Dr. Chan was subjected to a long process of observation and evaluation. In 1985, the departmental personnel committee recommended non-renewal of his contract on the grounds of professional incompetence. This decision was supported by the Dean, the Vice-Rector, and the University Grievance Committee. Now the case will go to an arbitrator. CUFA (Concordia University Faculty Association) has voted to support Dr. Chan and has agreed to pay the legal costs. The APSS Department has given Dr. Chan notice of eviction. Dr. Chan has no status, no relationship with the department at this time. His lawyer has told him that the arbitration hearing could be held by the second week of October, and that both lawyers are actively negotiating to agree on an arbitrator. Dr. Chan added that in every document he has received, there have been no references made to the student evaluation data (data which is favourable and would support his case).

Dr. Chan asked if CUSA has anything to say about the administration using student evaluation data selectively, of if CUSA has an opinion on the way in which student evaluation data is to be used.

Dr. Chan, in his opinion, stated that the reason his contract was not renewed was because he was different from other faculty members in the department in that his emphasis was on research, writing and publishing, as well as community service and street work. He stated that he was discriminated against because he is culturally different. He felt that it would take a lot of energy to overturn a decision coming as a consensus from a department. Shloime Perel added that the President of CUFA has said that student support will help Dr. Chan's case. A former student and a former graduate student for whom Dr. Chan served as advisor spoke in support of Dr. Chan. Dr. Chan said that if he is reinstated, he would probably start teaching in January 1987, but would seek financial compensation for lost wages (since May 31). His position at present is shared by part-timers, in 1987 he would have been eligible for tenure.

Glen Cheverie commented that the Board had heard only one side of the story and was in no position to take a stand. Karen Ashton said that in its effort to represent students, CUSA should use Dr. Chan's case to help students and professors in the future in a global sense. Chairperson Jon Moore offered to invite the Chair of APSS to the next Board meeting. Chairperson John Moore also commented that he saw this as two specific issues: firstly, the case, and secondly the use of student evaluations. Scott White stated that there was a point to be made in having things to say beyond merely student issues, and felt that the Board was looking at its mandate in too restrictive a way. Dr. Chan suggested that a task force be set up to deal with these issues, and that the task force should issue the invitation to the Chair of APSS to speak at the next Board meeting. Frank Benson voiced his support for a task force if it were initiated by the Education V.P. and was composed of representatives of each faculty from the Board. Glen Cheverie supported the idea of a task force for the student evaluations issue, however he was opposed to setting up a committee to look into the case of each professor who is fired.

(9:32) - QUORUM ACHIEVED

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Chairperson John Moore called the Fifty-Second Meeting of the Board to order at 9:32 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda:

The Agenda was approved as written.

3. Approval of Minutes of the 51st Meeting of the Board:

MOVE to approve the Minutes of the 51st Meeting of the Board of Directors as written.

Moved by: Jim Locke
Seconded by: Bettina Rosenberg

There were no objections to this motion.

4. Chairperson's Remarks:

Chairperson John Moore had no additional comments to make at this time.

5. Reports:

a) Co-Presidents' Report:

Scott White had no information additional to his earlier comments to present at this time.

b) Executive Reports:

Frank Benson, Chairperson of Judicial Board, reported that the ruling on the case of alleged printing of homophobic material in "the Concordian" would be rendered at a press conference to be held September 8th. Judicial Board is waiting until school recommences to render the ruling. Frank Benson also announced that he will be resigning effective September 3 for reasons of personal and professional development.

MOTION 322:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Directors extends it appreciation for the work that Frank Benson has done over the last year.

Moved by: Scott White
Seconded by: Karen Ashton

VOTE ON MOTION 322: UNANIMOUS

This Motion was received with a vigorous round of applause.

c) Senate:

Scott Robertson reported that the Hiring and Appointments Committee has been interviewing candidates for Senate, and that eight candidates will be presented to the Board for ratification at the next Board meeting. This will leave two openings on Senate which will be filled in September. The candidates who were interviewed but not chosen, have been told that they will be reconsidered after the September advertising for the openings.

d) Capital Campaign:

Scott White reported that the reaction has been positive to the leaflet and pledge card/withdrawl form distributed to all students by the Capital Campaign Office (except for two people who thought that the letter was too slick, too professional).

e) Academic Materials Fee:

Scott White had no information in addition to the handout distributed earlier in the meeting.

6. Question Period:

Jim Locke asked what the status was on the Budget Package, and was told that it was presently at the printer's and would be distributed within the next few days.

7. Unfinished Business:

a) Telejeunesse Canada/Young Canada TV:

John Moore stated that "Telejeunesse Canada/Young Canada TV" is a cable network headed by Francis Fox and chaired by Yvon Deschamps and Ann Mortifee. It is commercial-free innovative programming, and aimed at viewers between the ages of 3-21. It is set up to stimulate student production. It a privately funded, with the National Film Board being one of the major supporters, and it has received provisional grants for the government. It will be nationally braodcast over two channels. Because Concordia University has the "number one" Communications Studies Department in North America, the opportunities for students to produce for this network are very good. John Moore asked the Board for a motion of support as well as a letter of support to accompany Telejeunesse Canada/Young Canada TV's application for a licence to the CRTC.

MOTION 323:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT CUSA wholeheartedly supports the initiative of Telejeunesse Canada/Young Canada TV.

Moved by: Scott White
Seconded by: Jon Jolivet

VOTE ON MOTION 323: UNANIMOUS

MOTION 324:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Directors will leave it up to the Co-Presidents to write the letter in support of Telejeunesse Canada/Young Canada TV.

Moved by: Glen Cheverie
Seconded by: Bettina Rosenberg

VOTE ON MOTION 324: UNANIMOUS

8. New Business:

a) Cusacorp Budget 1986-87:

b) Cusacorp/Campus Centre: Options for the Long Term:

Scott White stated that these two items could not be dealt with this evening because there were no representatives from Cusacorp at the meeting. He informed the Board that the budget would be lower than estimated because the auditor's fee would be paid entirely by CUSA. Emma Tibaldo asked what would be the consequences if CUSA were to give up the Campus Centre. Scott White explained that it would be more advantageous to keep it because of the significant investment made in the building this year. He added that there is money in a fund that was to go towards the purchase or construction of a student union building downtown--in 1970 the Sir George Williams Students' Association decided to buy or build a student union building and had been collecting the money since 1965. Thery had a property on the corner of Crescent and de Maisonneuve (where Tony Roma's now stands). This building was sold in 1975 for $200,000. This money has been gathering interest since then and is now over $700,000. There is a separate Board of Directors that controls this fund, and the University representatives on this Board have a veto right on what happens to the money. These representatives have, however, come up with innovative ideas. Chairperson John Moore asked the Directors to look over the options presented in document BD-52-D2 in anticipation of a discussion. Glen Cheverie asked how the construction at the Campus Centre was coming along. Scott White explained that the construction had been completed and that the move was scheduled to take place on Saturday, August 16th at 5:00 p.m.

c) Dr. Kwok Chan:

Continuing the discussion from earlier in the evening, Frank Benson suggested looking at alternatives to inviting people to the Board when the Board knows that such people will not show up. He suggested investigating the possibility of developing a task force to apply pressure at various levels of the University to obtain concrete answers to real questions. Scott White stated that an investigative committee would be a good start, and to see how that develops.

MOTION 325:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT four representatives of the Board initiate discussion with representatives of the Applied Social Science Department and the Learning and Development Centre.

Moved by: Scott White
Seconded by: Jon Jolivet

VOTE ON MOTION : UNANIMOUS

Volunteers for the investigative committee:

Scott White
Scott Robertson
Maria Calderone
Jon Jolivet

d) ECA: Options for the Future:

Scott White stated that there were no developments to report at this time because both sides had been unable to set up a meeting. Glen Cheverie asked if CUSA could look at a process to exclude ECA students from CUSA services. Scott White stated that he and Karen Takacs had been looking at all the options.

MOVE to table this item.

Moved by: Jim Locke
Seconded by: Jon Jolivet

VOTE: 6/2/1 Carried

(10:15)

e) Senate Appointments:

As per the Senate Report given earlier, Scott Robertson explained that eight candidates for Senate would be brought before the Board for ratification at the next Board meeting.

f) Orientation:

Frank Benson requested that the Board extend the floor to him to speak on Orientation. He distributed the package that had been sent to all new students. He solicited the support of the Directors, stating that T.O.P.S. (Total Orientation Programming Service) starts in 12 days, and he needs help now. The packages have been mailed to 3,300 students and there has been a 90% affirmative response.

(10:30)

g) Parliamentary Commission:

Francois Desrosiers reported that the brief that CUSA has prepared on University Financing will be sent to Quebec City tomorrow. The brief is in

10 parts: historical orientation of universities, funding formula, loans and bursaries, managing human and material resources (tenure), fiscal reforms, other sources of revenue to cover the operating costs of universities (e.g. private sector donationa). He stated that copies of the brief will be available at CUSA early next week.

9. Adjournment:

MOVE to adjourn at 10:40 p.m.

Moved by: Maria Calderone
Seconded by: Karen Ashton

There were no objections to this motion.

John Moore, Chairperson

Jo Howard, Recording Secretary